



parish of finchampstead & california

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Parish Office, Baptism, Wedding, or Funerals, please ring 0118 9730133

Church Centre bookings for St James'; Sue Sampson 0118 9732069

Parish Centre bookings St Mary & St John's; Marjorie Stalker 01344 779636

Notices Contact: [parishnotices@finchampstead.co.uk](mailto:parishnotices@finchampstead.co.uk)

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## 27<sup>th</sup> November | Notices

SJ-St James', SJCC-St James' Church Centre,  
SMSJ-St Mary & St John's at Gorse Ride Junior School,  
SMSJPC-SMSJ Parish Centre, SE-St Eligius Church  
AGCC - Arborfield Green Community Centre

<b>Sunday 27<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Advent Sunday</b>
	<b>Quench bookstall after services at SJCC</b>
8.00am	Holy Communion BCP (SJ)
9.30am	Café Church (SJ)
9.30am	Holy Communion & kids' activities (SMSJ)
11.00am	Parish Communion (SJ)
11.00am	Holy Communion (SE)
6.00pm	Advent Carol Service (SJ)
<b>Monday 28<sup>th</sup></b>	
9.30am	Fledgelings (SJCC)
<b>Wednesday 30<sup>th</sup></b>	
9.15am	Toddler Praise (SE)
<b>Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup></b>	
11am to 1pm	Christmessy Family Fun (SJCC)
3pm to 6pm	Church School Christmas Fair at Finchampstead School
<b>Sunday 4<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Advent 2</b>
	<b>Cake sale in aid of the churchyard (SJCC)</b>
8.00am	Holy Communion CW (SJ)
9.30am	Family Communion (SJ)
9.30am	Holy Communion & kids' activities (SMSJ)
11.00am	Parish Communion (SJ)
11.00am	Patronal Festival (SE)
6.00pm	Evensong (SJ)

### Bring and Buy Sale Thanks

Thank you everyone who donated to the bring and buy sale at SJ last Sunday and especially to the folks who came and purchased some real bargains; we are delighted to say £269 was raised, so well done everyone. Many thanks for all your support with our fundraising - it is very much appreciated.

### Parish Staff News

We are pleased to announce that **Kate Hembra** has been appointed as our new Parish Administrator and will begin her new role in the first week of January 2023, taking over from Pamela who in turn takes on her new role as our Youth Worker. Kate successfully served in the role for many years previously, so we are particularly delighted and look forward to a seamless handover. Please join me in congratulating Kate and praying for her and Pamela's every success!

### Joint Christmas Day service at St Eligius'

SMSJ and SE will have a joint service on Christmas Day at SE at 10.00am to help minimise the clergy workload on that day. There will be no service at SMSJ on Christmas Day.

### Quench Bookstall after services at St James' on 27 Nov

Cards, gifts, books, Advent calendars – Come and buy to support our local Christian bookshop. Carolyn Fox

### (Free) Tickets required for 4pm Christingle Service at Wellington College Chapel on Christmas Eve

Numbers are limited and tickets will start to be allocated from 27 Nov so get your applications in to SJ Church Centre asap. Application forms available in SJCC

### 'Christmessy' Family Fun - 11 - 1pm at SJCC on 3 Dec

Come along to experience the Christmas story with Christmas crafts, an interactive nativity, scavenger hunt with prizes from the 'King' followed by carols with refreshments including mulled wine and a *special guest* (hint, hint) will be joining us!!

### Christmas Hamper Raffle at St James'

Tickets will be available after most services, draw to take place on Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> December after the 11am Service.

### Christmas Cake Raffle at St James' in aid of Churchyard Cake Sale after services at SJ on 4<sup>th</sup> December.

### Items to donate to Crowthorne Foodbank now also include

New hot water bottles, new fingerless gloves, new blankets to help clients to keep warm (**collecting box in SJCC**)

**Christmas specials** share pack crisps, crackers for cheese, boxes/tins of chocolates, selection boxes/chocolate coins/Santa's for children, family pack biscuits and cakes.

### Finchampstead and Barkham Relief in Sickness Fund

If you are ill, convalescent, disabled, handicapped, or infirm, living in the Parishes of Finchampstead and Barkham, and need items or support which you cannot afford, the Finchampstead and Barkham Relief in Sickness Fund may be able to help. Please contact Cllr Steve Bromley (0118) 973 3553 [steve.bromley@btopenworld.com](mailto:steve.bromley@btopenworld.com) ; Cllr Roland Cundy (0118) 9731056 [roland@finchampstead.net](mailto:roland@finchampstead.net) or Revd. Leonard (0118) 9732102 [rector@finchampstead.co.uk](mailto:rector@finchampstead.co.uk)

### Save the Date

- 8 Dec 2pm Mothers' Union Christmas service & Tea (SJCC)
- 17 Dec 9am Ladies Breakfast (SJCC)
- 18 Dec 9.30am Carols, Crib & Communion (SMSJ)
- 9.30am Family Carols (SJ)
- 6pm Nine Lessons & Carols (Wellington College Chapel)
- 24 Dec 4pm Christingle (Wellington College Chapel)
- 21 Jan Quiz evening with supper (SJCC)
- 11 Mar Churchyard Spring Tea (SJCC)
- 18 Mar Family bingo with afternoon tea (SJCC)
- 1 July Church Fete on Memorial Park

**Parish Intercessions List - Please pray for:** Joyce Beckett, Sophie Hall, Ann Pask, Colin Ramsay McClaren, Linda Whiteside, Gerry and Steve Prosser, David Powell, Bob Helliwell, Pamela Redford, Mo Nottage, Daniel, Helen & Chris Goble, John Coombs, Tina Worrell, Alison Woodrow, Ginger Timms, Regina and Bella, Susan Campbell, Hannah and Tom Edwards, Jamie-Marie Hemming, Rob, Brenda Barker, Liz Cooper

**And those who mourn the loss of loved ones:** Larry Le Var, Robert Mackie Scollick, David Atkinson

# Readings and Prayers for

27 November 2022:

## ADVENT SUNDAY

### Isaiah 2:1-5

*Although God entered into a covenant with one nation, Israel, his intention was always that every nation would be drawn to him and his way of peace.*

<sup>1</sup> The word that Isaiah son of Amoz saw concerning Judah and Jerusalem.

<sup>2</sup> In days to come the mountain of the LORD's house shall be established as the highest of the mountains, and shall be raised above the hills; all the nations shall stream to it. <sup>3</sup> Many peoples shall come and say, 'Come, let us go up to the mountain of the LORD, to the house of the God of Jacob; that he may teach us his ways and that we may walk in his paths.' For out of Zion shall go forth instruction, and the word of the LORD from Jerusalem. <sup>4</sup> He shall judge between the nations, and shall arbitrate for many peoples; they shall beat their swords into ploughshares, and their spears into pruning-hooks; nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war any more.

<sup>5</sup> O house of Jacob, come, let us walk in the light of the LORD

### Psalm 122

<sup>1</sup> I was glad when they said to me,  
'Let us go to the house of the LORD!'

<sup>2</sup> Our feet are standing  
within your gates, O Jerusalem.

<sup>3</sup> Jerusalem—built as a city  
that is bound firmly together.

<sup>4</sup> To it the tribes go up,  
the tribes of the LORD,  
as was decreed for Israel,  
to give thanks to the name of the LORD.

<sup>5</sup> For there the thrones for judgement were set up,  
the thrones of the house of David.

<sup>6</sup> Pray for the peace of Jerusalem:  
'May they prosper who love you.

<sup>7</sup> Peace be within your walls,  
and security within your towers.'

<sup>8</sup> For the sake of my relatives and friends  
I will say, 'Peace be within you.'

<sup>9</sup> For the sake of the house of the LORD our God,  
I will seek your good.

### Romans 13:11-14

*At Christmas we shall remember how Jesus came and lived among the people of his time. Here Paul encourages us to live for the day when Jesus will return.*

<sup>11</sup> You know what time it is, how it is now the moment for you to wake from sleep. For salvation is nearer to us now than when we became believers; <sup>12</sup> the night is far gone, the day is near. Let us then lay aside the works of darkness and put on the armour of light; <sup>13</sup> let us live honourably as in the day, not in revelling and drunkenness, not in debauchery and licentiousness, not in quarrelling and jealousy. <sup>14</sup> Instead, put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to gratify its desires.

### Matthew 24:36-44

*At the start of the Church's year we switch from Luke to Matthew for most of our Gospel readings. Here Jesus tells his disciples, "Be prepared".*

Jesus said, <sup>36</sup> 'But about that day and hour no one knows, neither the angels of heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. <sup>37</sup> For as the days of Noah were, so will be the coming of the Son of Man. <sup>38</sup> For as in those days before the flood they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day Noah entered the ark, <sup>39</sup> and they knew nothing until the flood came and swept them all away, so too will be the coming of the Son of Man. <sup>40</sup> Then two will be in the field; one will be taken and one will be left. <sup>41</sup> Two women will be grinding meal together; one will be taken and one will be left. <sup>42</sup> Keep awake therefore, for you do not know on what day your Lord is coming. <sup>43</sup> But understand this: if the owner of the house had known in what part of the night the thief was coming, he would have stayed awake and would not have let his house be broken into. <sup>44</sup> Therefore you also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an unexpected hour.

### Collect

Almighty God, as your kingdom dawns, turn us from the darkness of sin to the light of holiness, that we may be ready to meet you in our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ.

### Post Communion

O Lord our God, make us watchful and keep us faithful as we await the coming of your Son our Lord; that, when he shall appear, he may not find us sleeping in sin but active in his service and joyful in his praise; through Jesus Christ our Lord.